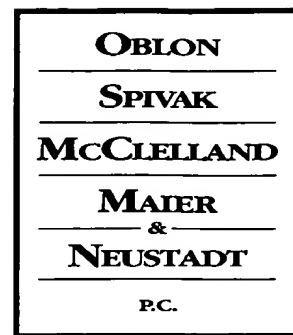




Docket No.: 211736US0X

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/919,831
Applicants: Brigitte BATHE, et al.
Filing Date: August 2, 2001
For: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES WHICH CODE FOR
THE metR AND metZ GENES
Group Art Unit: 1642
Examiner: KERR, K.

SIR:

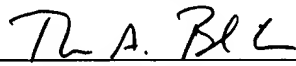
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Requirement for Restriction (8 pp.)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Norman F. Oblon

Registration No. 24,618

Thomas A. Blinka, Ph. D.
Registration No. 44,541

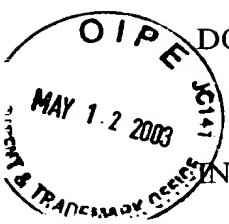


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(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

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DOCKET NO.: 211736US0X

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Brigitte BATHE, et al. : EXAMINER: KERR, K.

SERIAL NO.: 09/919,831 :GROUP: 1642

FILED: August 2, 2001 :

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FOR: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES WHICH CODE FOR THE metR AND metZ GENES

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Official Action of April 10, 2003, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, Claims 1-7 and 16, drawn to polynucleotides encoding an O-succinylhomoserine sulphydrylase metZ (SEQ ID NO:3) and coryneform bacteria host cells thereof.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

- I. Claims 1-7 and 16, drawn to polynucleotides encoding a transcription activator metR (SEQ ID NO:2) and coryneform bacteria host cells thereof;
- II. Claims 1-7 and 16, drawn to polynucleotides encoding an O-succinylhomoserine sulphydrylase metZ (SEQ ID NO:3) and coryneform bacteria host cells thereof;
- III. Claim 8, drawn to coryneform bacteria with an attenuated metR gene;
- IV. Claim 8, drawn to coryneform bacteria with an attenuated metZ gene;
- V. Claims 9-15 and 17-18, drawn to methods for the fermentative preparation of L-amino acids using metR;